BMW
Corporate Communications



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Company

Bayerische

Motoren Werke

Aktiengesellschaft

Postal Address

BMW AG

80788 München

Telephone

+49 89 382 20067

Internet

www.bmwgroup.com

Exhibition of modern museum architecture at the BMW Museum

Museums in the 21st Century. Ideas, Projects, Buildings. being held in Munich from 20 May to 19 September 2010.

**Munich.** “Museums in the 21st Century. Ideas, Projects, Buildings.”, an exhibition initiated by the Art Centre Basel, comprises a collection of 27 of the most interesting international museum projects which were either conceived during the first decade of the 21st century, are currently emerging or have been developed as a perpetual idea for providing incentive. Since 2006, the travelling exhibition has toured across four continents, has been constantly updated and now offers new perspectives for the realisation of drafted projects. The exhibition, which is being shown at the BMW Museum from 20 May 2010 to 19 September 2010, can be seen in Southern Germany for the very first time.

Museum buildings are among the most remarkable and attractive large-scale constructions of our time. The exhibition is directed at a broad-ranging target group and presents architectural models, large-size photos and pictures, building plans and graphic representations of the world’s most modern museum buildings. These have been conceived by renowned architects from all four corners of the world - Tadao Andō, Zaha Hadid, Mario Botta, Renzo Piano, Jean Nouvel and Daniel Libeskind as well as Coop Himmelb(l)au and Frank O. Gehry. The exhibits comprise a wide-ranging and diversified synopsis of modern museum architecture. The exhibition was initiated by Suzanne Greub, founder of the Art Centre Basel. The Art Centre Basel arranged the presentation of each individual project in cooperation with the respective architects. The exhibition deals with the museum as a universal phenomenon, whilst at the same time intentionally preserving each architect’s distinctive signature, this being expressed in the composition of models, photos and pictures, building plans and graphic representations.

**Varying architectural concepts create identifying features.**

“Modern museum architecture is not only an expression of art, it also serves over and above that as a recognisable and identifiable feature of the locations at which it is to be found,” says Ralf Rodepeter, director of the BMW Museum. Consequently, the exhibition is also designed to reflect this. Museum buildings within the structure of large cities, as an extension of already existing facilities, as a free-standing solitaire building, or within a landscape context. At a glance it becomes evident - new trends maintain a complex and tense relationship with traditional museum architecture, with the exhibited projects expressing varying basic approaches towards architecture. An exhibition catalogue published by Prestel serves as a useful introductory guide and also provides a well-illustrated documentation of all 27 projects.

BMW has gained experience through its own prominent building projects, which serve as distinguishing features and were realised by renowned architects. For example, the BMW Museum itself, the extension of which was carried out by ATELIER BRÜCKNER and ART + COM, forms part of the art exhibition which offers the visitor a bird’s eye view by means of drawings and models.

The display is designed as an international touring exhibition, making appearances at around 20 venues on four continents. To date, it has been shown in Rome, Lyon, Lisbon, Oslo and in several North American cities. Following its presentation at the BMW Museum, it will continue its journey until 2012 to further well-known cultural facilities, which will include the MART (Museo di Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto) in Rovereto, the CDAN (Centro de Arte y Naturaleza, Fundación Beulas) in Huesca as well as the Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten in Antwerp.

**Information regarding the exhibition at the BMW Museum**

Admission to the exhibition is 5 Euros/reduced price 2.50 Euros. The BMW Museum is situated between the BMW high-rise building and the BMW Welt at Olympiapark 2, 80809 Munich. Opening times: Tuesdays to Sundays and on public holidays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Closed Mondays except Whit Monday (24.05).

For further information regarding opening times and reservations please visit

[www.bmw-museum.de](http://www.bmw-museum.de) or phone 01802 118822.

**The BMW Group**

The BMW Group is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the world with its BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce brands. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 24 production facilities in 13 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

The BMW Group achieved a global sales volume of approximately 1.29 million automobiles and over 87,000 motorcycles for the 2009 financial year. The pre-tax profit for 2009 was euro 413 million, revenues totalled euro 50.68 billion. At 31 December 2009, the company employed a global workforce of approximately 96,000 associates.

The success of the BMW Group has always been built on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy. As a result of its efforts, the BMW Group has been ranked industry leader in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes for the last five years.

Information regarding the BMW Group’s cultural involvement: www.bmwgroup.com/culture

For questions please contact:

Martina Daschinger, Spokesperson Cultural Communications

Telephone: + 49 382 14908, Fax: + 49 89 382 70 14908

Thomas Girst, Spokesperson Cultural Communications

Telephone: +49 89 382 20067, Fax: +49 89 382 10881

Media Website: www.press.bmwgroup.com

E-mail: presse@bmw.de